

Q1 To ask the Scottish Government what recent discussions it has had with upstream oil and gas producers regarding minimising methane emissions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the energy sector by 2020, as recommended by the International Energy Agency?

Answer:

Gas flaring (and venting) on offshore oil and gas installations is regulated by the Oil and Gas Authority, which is committed to eliminating all unnecessary or wasteful flaring and venting of gas.

Emissions occurring from offshore oil and gas exploration and production activities are included in the UK greenhouse gas inventory but are not currently attributed to the constituent countries of the UK. While efforts to reduce methane emissions in offshore oil and gas production will impact on UK and global emissions, it will not impact on Scottish emissions for the purpose of reporting progress against statutory emissions reduction targets set under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009